THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI) : (a) and (b) The major items exported to USA during 1984-85 and 1985-86 are: diamonds, readymade garments and other textiles, petroleum products, engineering products, leather and its products, carpets and drugs and agricultural products such as cashewnuts, spices and marine products.

The foreign exchange earned during 1984-85 and 1985-86 by non-oil exports to USA are as follows:

(Value : Rs. crores)

Year	Export to USA
1984-85	1765.83
1985-86*	1994.48

*Figures are provisional and subject to revision.

A series of initiatives which have been taken to promote our exports of various products would assist our exports to USA also. With particular reference to the USA, a number of steps have been taken to increase exports which include market surveys, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, buyer-seller meets and special publicity programmes.

Consumer Price Index numbers

1572. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what were the Consumer Price Index numbers as at the end of December, 1984, December 1985 and December, 1986;

(b) whether it is rising and if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what items are being taken into account to determine the price index and since when;

(d) whether Government propose to consider more items including control rate of rent for housing which are also essential in determining the Consumer Price Index; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Consumer Price Index numbers for industrial workers for the month of December for the years 1984, 1985 and 1986 on base 1960=100 are given below:

Year	Index for December
1984	588
1985	630
1986	688

(b) A rising trend has been observed in the index. It is mainly due to increase in prices of different items, seasonal fluctuations, varying supply of ration items etc.

(c) A list of items taken into account to determine the all-India consumer price index for industrial workers on base 1960=100 is given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix CXLII, Annexure No. 79].

(d) and (e) In the proposed new series on base 1982, a number of new items are being included as a result of change in consumption pattern revealed by 1981-82 survey. Hoousing is one of the items taken into account under 1960 as well as proposed 1982 series.

Prisoners of Operation Blue Star

1573. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Amnesty International has asked the

Indian Government to either release or prosecute under ordinary procedure of the criminal law all those who were arrested during the Operation Blue Star; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Some representations from members and sympathisers of Amnesty International regarding review of cases of under trial prisoners apprehended during Operation Blue Star and presently lodged in Jodhpur Jail have been received. The pending cases are reviewed in the usual course.

Objectionable articles on Prophet and Islam

1574. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the December 1986 issue of the one English magazine of Delhi "Tortured for Christ" highly objectionable and inflamatory articles against the Prophet and Islam have been published which have hurt the religious sentiments of Muslims;

(b) what action has been taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take against such newspapers, journals and periodicals which preach communal hatred and attack various religious and religious leaders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) A booklet 'Tortured Christ' was found in circulation containing some objectionable articles against Islam. A case under section 295 A of the IPC (PS Hauz Qazi, Delhi) has been registered.

(c) Whenever any such articles are noticed, necessary legal action is initiated by the State Governments/UTs.

Orders for the arrest of editor of 'Deccan Herald'

1575. SHRI ALADI ARJUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jammu and Kashmir Government issued orders to arrest the Editor of Bangalore daily "Deccan Herald" in connection with a controversial short story; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the Government of Jammu & Kashmir and will be laid on the Table of the House.

सम्राट होटल

1576. **श्री अश्विनी कुमार** : क्या **पर्यटन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सरकार "सम्राट होटल" को आर्थिक रूप से व्यवसाय-सक्षम बनाने के लिये क्या उपाय कर रही है या करने का विचार रखती है ?

पर्यटन मंत्री (मुफती मोहम्मद सईद) : 17 नवम्बर, 1982 को भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम द्वारा सम्राट होटल नई दिल्ली आंशिक रूप से खोल दिया गया था तथा इसमें 80 कमरे थे। इस समय इसमें 264 कमरे हैं। वर्ष 1985-86 तक यह "जेस्टेशन" अवधि में रहा। होटल के वर्ष-वार वित्तीय परिणाम